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Letter dated 25 October 2007 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council

In accordance with Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004), 1639 (2005) and 1722 (2006), I have the honour to convey to you the attached letter dated 22 October 2007 (see annex), which I received from Javier Solana, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union and High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union, transmitting the eleventh report on the activities of the European Union military operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The report covers the period from 1 June to 31 August 2007.

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ban** Ki-moon

07-56688 (E) 301007

Annex

Letter dated 22 October 2007 from the Secretary-General and High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with the provisions of Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004), 1639 (2005) and 1722 (2006), I attach the eleventh three-monthly report on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR) (see enclosure). The report covers the period from 1 June to 31 August 2007. I should be grateful if you would transmit the report to the President of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Javier **Solana**

Enclosure

Report of the Secretary-General and High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina

I. Introduction

1. The present report covers the period from 1 June to 31 August 2007.

2. The Security Council, in resolutions 1575 (2004), 1639 (2005) and 1722 (2006), requested that Member States, acting through or in cooperation with the European Union, report to the Council on the activity of the European Union military mission (EUFOR), through the appropriate channels and at least at three-monthly intervals. This document is the eleventh such report to the Council.

II. Political background

3. The outgoing High Representative, Christian Schwarz-Schilling, used his executive (Bonn) Powers in late June to make the Srebrenica-Potočari Memorial Centre a State institution. The government of Republika Srpska reacted strongly, claiming that the decision compromised the entity's territorial integrity. Miroslav Lajčák, who succeeded Mr. Schwarz-Schilling on 2 July, also used the Bonn Powers on 9 and 10 July to remove a senior Republika Srpska police official and to impose amendments to legislation designed to facilitate investigations by the State Prosecutor against persons on the so-called Srebrenica list of potential indictees for war crimes.

4. There continued to be intense and sometimes acrimonious discussion of constitutional reform, with the predominantly Bosniak and Croat parties endeavouring to prepare common platforms for eventual formal negotiations. For his part, the Prime Minister of Republika Srpska, Milorad Dodik, upped the ante by repeatedly insisting late in August that either his entity would be a permanent and respected unit in a federalized Bosnia and Herzegovina or the country would fracture when the international community departed.

5. The key challenge remains reaching an agreement on police reform, thereby fulfilling the principal remaining precondition for initialling a stabilization and association agreement with the European Union. The High Representative/European Union Special Representative launched talks at the end of August with a view to achieving results before the end of September.

III. Security situation and EUFOR activities

6. The security situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina remained stable during the reporting period. The commemoration of the twelfth anniversary of the Srebrenica massacre and the burial on 11 July of newly identified victims were free of incident. EUFOR conducted monitoring and support operations in eastern Republika Srpska before and during the commemoration.

7. On 29 June, at the request of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, EUFOR conducted a search operation on the premises of the Karadzic family in Pale, Republika Srpska. The aim was to find material or information

which could assist the Tribunal in the search for and capture of persons indicted by it for war crimes and to put pressure on networks believed to be involved in protecting those persons. The operation was supported by North Atlantic Treaty Organization headquarters in Sarajevo and was closely coordinated with the Tribunal.

8. In August, EUFOR conducted an operational rehearsal involving elements of the operational reserve forces. That was the first time that a training event of this scale had been conducted under the direct command and control of EUFOR headquarters. The armed forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina participated in the exercise with a sub-unit. Further combined training activities involving EUFOR and the armed forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina could be developed in future.

9. On 28 August, the implementation of the EUFOR transition was completed, the end of the six-month reversibility period having been reached. The intent of the reversibility period had been to provide real estate capacity to allow EUFOR to maintain the ability to reverse its reduction, if required. The current force of some 2,500 troops is now concentrated in Sarajevo, with liaison and observation teams deployed throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina.

10. EUFOR continues to support the law enforcement agencies of Bosnia and Herzegovina in fighting organized crime in close cooperation with the European Union police mission.

IV. Outlook

11. Looking ahead, the core security situation is expected to remain stable. EUFOR will continue to fulfil its mandate in accordance with the General Framework Agreement for Peace.